

Appl. No. 10/825,792
Docket No. 9215
Amdt. dated November 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed on May 12, 2006
Customer No. 27752

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A toothbrush comprising:

an elongate handle and a head;
the head comprising a longitudinal axis, a top face, and a bottom face;
the top face comprising a brushing surface;
the bottom face comprising a massaging surface;
the brushing surface comprising a generally circular-shaped collection of bristle tufts;
the massaging surface comprising a plurality of projections; and wherein the plurality of projections are oriented in staggered rows.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 12, wherein the plurality of projections are generally conical nubs.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 12, wherein the plurality of projections are generally in rows transverse to the longitudinal axis of the brush.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 14, wherein the plurality of projections are generally in rows generally parallel with the longitudinal axis of the brush.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 15, wherein the plurality of projections cover a substantial portion of the bottom face.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 15, wherein the entire plurality of projections are uniform in shape.

Appl. No. 10/825,792
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Claim 18 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 12, wherein the plurality of projections are formed from an elastomeric material.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 18, wherein the plurality of projections are nubs.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 19, wherein the plurality of projections are generally conical.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 20, wherein the head further comprises outwardly extending elastomeric ridge-like elements.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 21, wherein the ridge-like elements are arcuate.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 12, wherein the handle comprises a motor.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 23, wherein the motor is operatively connected to the brushing surface and the massaging surface.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A toothbrush comprising:

- an elongate handle and a head;
- the head comprising a longitudinal axis, a top face, and a bottom face;
- the top face comprising a brushing surface;
- the bottom face comprising a massaging surface;
- the brushing surface comprising a generally circular-shaped collection of bristle tufts;
- the massaging surface comprising a plurality of projections; and wherein the plurality of projections are generally oriented in rows transverse to the longitudinal axis of the brush, and wherein the transverse rows are staggered.

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Claim 26 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 25, wherein the plurality of projections are generally conical nubs.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 26, wherein the plurality of projections are formed from an elastomeric material.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 27, wherein the head further comprises arcuate elastomeric ridge-like elements.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 25, wherein the handle comprises a motor, wherein the motor is operatively connected to the brushing surface and the massaging surface.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A toothbrush comprising:
an elongate handle and a head;
the head comprising a longitudinal axis, a top face, and a bottom face;
the top face comprising a brushing surface;
the bottom face comprising a massaging surface;
the brushing surface comprising a generally circular-shaped collection of bristle tufts;
the massaging surface comprising a plurality of projections; and
wherein the plurality of projections are generally oriented in rows parallel with the longitudinal axis of the brush, and wherein the parallel rows are staggered.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 30, wherein the handle comprises a motor, wherein the motor is operatively connected to the brushing surface and the massaging surface.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The toothbrush of Claim 31, wherein the motor imparts a pulsing motion to the massaging surface.

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Claim 33 (new): A toothbrush comprising:

an elongate handle and a head;
the head comprising a longitudinal axis, a top face, and a bottom face;
the top face comprising a brushing surface;
the bottom face comprising a massaging plate;
the brushing surface comprising a collection of bristle tufts;
wherein the surface of the massaging plate comprises a plurality of projections; and
wherein the plurality of projections are oriented in staggered rows.

Claim 34 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 33, wherein the massaging plate is secured to the bottom face of the toothbrush head.

Claim 35 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 34, wherein the massaging plate has a top surface that is generally coplanar with the bottom face of the toothbrush head.

Claim 36 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 35, wherein the massaging plate is formed from an elastomeric material and the toothbrush head is formed from a polymer selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polystyrene, polyethylene, acrylonitrile-styrene copolymer, cellulose acetate propionate, a thermoplastic elastomer, a thermoplastic olefin, a thermoplastic polyolefin, ethylene-vinylacetate copolymer, ethylene propylene rubber, and combinations thereof.

Claim 37 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 36, wherein the massaging plate is elongate.

Claim 38 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 37, wherein the plurality of projections are formed from an elastomeric material.

Claim 39 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 38, wherein the top face further comprises a plurality elastomeric elements.

Appl. No. 10/825,792
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Claim 40 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 39, wherein the plurality of projections are generally conical nubs.

Claim 41 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 1, wherein the bottom face is generally planar.

Claim 42 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 41, wherein the top face is generally planar.

Claim 43 (new): The toothbrush of Claim 39, wherein a side wall exists between the brushing surface and the surface of the massaging plate.